

CLARK COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL PREDETERMINATION REPORT

Applicant Name: J.D. White Company, Inc.
1111 Main Street, Suite 300
Vancouver, WA 98660
(360) 696-1338
Contact: Karyn Criswell

Location: 1919 NE 78th Street, Clark
County, Washington 98665

Parcel #: 60460

Prepared By: Jones & Stokes
11820 Northup Way, Suite E300
Bellevue, Washington 98005
(425) 822-1077

Serial #: 148084-000

Quad: Vancouver, WA – USGS 7.5 minute
(1990)

Property Owner's Name: Washington State
University

Legal Description: #185 W.R. Anderson
DLC 78.92A

File/Permit #:

Township/Range/Section: T2N/R1E/11

Date Received:

Parcel Acreage: ~ 80

Description of Activity: Master planning and change in land use classification, followed by proposed mixed commercial/residential development.

Reasons Archaeological Predetermination is needed: Project area is the historic Clark County Poor Farm and is adjacent to historic Clark County Poor Farm Cemetery.

FIELD INSPECTION

Date of Inspection: June 7-11, 2004

Archaeologists: Jason Cooper, M.A. and Christian Fish

Describe the proposed projects locational characteristics including: topography, hydrology, wetlands, and any prominent features located on or near the proposed project:

The proposed project is located in unincorporated Clark County, Washington in an area commonly known as Hazel Dell on the Washington State University (WSU) 78th Street Agricultural Center parcel. The project parcel is bounded by NE 78th Street to the north, NE 68th Street to the south, the Hazel Dell Mobile Estates trailer park and the Clark County Poor Farm Cemetery to the west, an undeveloped parcel to the east, and the Hazel Dell Clark County Park to the southeast (Figures 1-3).

Describe current use of the proposed project area:

The WSU Vancouver 78th Street Agricultural Center is an active horticultural research facility with a variety of agricultural uses across the approximate 80-acre parcel. Vegetables, fruit, plants, and other agricultural products are grown in both field crops and greenhouses. Storage facilities, garages, and a fuel station are located just east of the main structure. The main structure (the former Clark County Poor Farm building) houses research, laboratories, and administrative offices. The entire parcel is fenced with six-foot high cyclone fencing and adorned with barbed wire.

Describe vegetation:

Native vegetation is relegated to only three areas within the 80-acre parcel. There are two large stands of mixed coniferous and hardwood trees on the property with a fairly dense understory. Douglas fir, red alder, and Oregon white oak are dominant with an understory consisting of salal, Oregon grape, vine maple and ferns. One of the heavily vegetated areas is located near the Poor Farm Cemetery fence boundary. The other significant stand of native vegetation is surrounding the machine shop and hog barn (see Figure 3). A large wetland complex is associated with this area and it maintains a diverse assemblage of wetland vegetation including rushes, sedges, hardhack, vine maple, skunk cabbage, and some alder and ash. The third area of native vegetation is a relatively small postage stamp of alder trees just south of ISO#1 (see Figure 3).

Describe search procedures:

The entire project area was surveyed using parallel adjacent transects spaced at 15 meter (~50 feet) intervals (Figure 2). All exposed soils (e.g., rodent mounds, road tracks, tree tips in the forested areas, and in the fallow fields) were inspected for archaeological material. Locations for shovel probes were identified, mapped with a hand held Trimble G.P.S. unit (GeoExplorer 3), and pin flagged for easy identification. The shovel test probe locations were chosen to provide coverage in areas deemed more likely to maintain unknown and intact archaeological deposits.

Indicate the percent of mineral soils exposed in survey area:

Approximately 60% of the total parcel was visible.

Describe and quantify the amount of subsurface probing and manual surface exposing activities that were carried out:

A total of 18 shovel test probes were excavated (Figure 3; Table 1). Measuring 40 to 50 centimeters (15.7 to 19.6 inches) wide at the surface, this series of shovel test probes averaged approximately 80 centimeters (31.4 inches) below ground surface and were extended further by using a hand held auger to an average of 158 centimeters (62.2 inches) below ground surface. The maximum depth of a shovel test probe excavated with

Table 1. Shovel test probe (STP) information for the WSU 78th Street Ag Center Project

| STP # | Location | UTM Coordinates | Depth (cmbgs) ¹ | Soil Type | Findings |
|-------|---|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------|----------|
| 01 | SW ¼ of parcel near high point of cemetery on east side of fence | 527,154 Easting 5,057,674 Northing | 0-95 ² 95-165 ³ | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 02 | SW ¼ adjacent to the cemetery fence | 527,173 Easting 5,057,587 Northing | 0-70 70-160 | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 03 | SW ¼ adjacent to the cemetery fence | 527,173 Easting 5,057,572 Northing | 0-80 80-160 | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 04 | SW ¼ adjacent to the cemetery fence | 527,173 Easting 5,057,557 Northing | 0-70 70-160 | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 05 | SW ¼ adjacent to the cemetery fence | 527,173 Easting 5,057,531 Northing | 0-105 105-160 | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 06 | SW ¼ adjacent to the cemetery fence | 527,173 Easting 5,057,504 Northing | 0-70 70-160 | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 07 | SW ¼ in the stand of trees near the high point | 527,241 Easting 5,057,632 Northing | 0-80 80-160 | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 08 | SW ¼ in the stand of trees near the high point | 527,211 Easting 5,057,652 Northing | 0-70 70-160 | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 09 | SW ¼ north of the access road | 527,261 Easting 5,057,659 Northing | 0-65 65-165 | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 10 | SW ¼ north of the access road | 527,295 Easting 5,057,660 Northing | 0-80 80-160 | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 11 | Near the NW corner of the Clark County Hazel Dell Park | 527,360 Easting 5,057,649 Northing | 0-64 64-160 | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 12 | NW ¼ of the SE ¼ south of the historic Hog Barn in a stand of trees | 527,462 Easting 5,057,777 Northing | 0-80 80-160 | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 13 | NE ¼ of the SE ¼ adjacent to an active garden | 527,504 Easting 5,057,774 Northing | 0-80 80-158 | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 14 | NE ¼ of the SE ¼ in a fallow field | 527,539 Easting 5,057,770 Northing | 0-90 90-190 | Hillsboro Loam | None |
| 15 | NW ¼ of the SW ¼ in a fallow field | 527,256 Easting 5,057,799 Northing | 0-80 80-160 | Hillsboro Silt Loam | None |
| 16 | NW ¼ of the SW ¼ in a fallow field | 527,256 Easting 5,057,837 Northing | 0-90 90-168 | Hillsboro Silt Loam | None |
| 17 | NW ¼ of the SW ¼ in a fallow field | 527,256 Easting 5,057,852 Northing | 0-75 75-140 | Hillsboro Silt Loam | None |
| 18 | NE ¼ south of 78 th Street | 527,537 Easting 5,058,156 Northing | 0-70 70-90 | Hillsboro Silt Loam | None |

¹ – centimeters below ground surface (cmbgs)

² – The first set of numbers refer to the shovel-excavated depth of the STP.

³ – The second set of numbers refer the hand held auger excavated depth of the STP.

a shovel is about one (1) meter (39.3 inches). The hand held auger was utilized to extend the subsurface excavation to the physical limit of manual digging. Shovel test probes were located based on the highest probability for finding unknown and intact archaeological resources. No archaeological material was identified in any of the excavated shovel test probes.

Were soils screened? If yes, indicate the screen mesh size:

All excavated soils were screened through a 1/8th inch (3 mm) wire mesh “rocker” screen. Once completed, all soil was returned to the shovel test probe.

Describe soils:

McGee (1972) classifies the soils in the project area as primarily being from the Hillsboro Series, followed by the Cove Series, the Odne Series, and the Gee Series. All of these soils are medium to fine grain-textured soils that were deposited from old Columbia River alluvium.

Hillsboro loam (HIA) and Hillsboro silt loam (HoB) were identified as the dominant sediment horizons found on the research facility parcel. Cobbles and pebbles were almost non-existent with the exception of some rocky-fill material identified in STP# 02. In general, soil moisture increased with depth and the compaction of the soil was loose to moderately compact. The hand held auger was able to reach a sandy matrix at the bottom of most of the units as the fine grain loam and silty loam became less dominant.

Soils that are indicative of wetlands can be found in the southeast corner of the northeast quarter of the parcel (see Figure 3-northeast of the label Machine Shop). The wetland complex in this area is buffered to the south by a stand of mixed coniferous and hardwood trees. Agricultural activity has hemmed in this area with small earthen berms on the north and western edges. The wetland complex extends east beyond the WSU 78th Street Agricultural Center boundary.

BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Archaeological Sites

Previously recorded archaeological sites recorded within one-mile of the WSU 78th Street Agricultural Center research facility include sites 45CL463, 45CL587 and 45CL606.

Site 45CL463, also known as the Holly Go Lightly site, is recorded as a multiple period archaeological site containing prehistoric lithic material and a single historic period artifact on the terraces buffering Tenny Creek (DeLyria 1997). In total, twenty-two prehistoric artifacts were identified on the surface and in shovel test probes. Artifacts found on the surface include seven CCS flakes, a basalt biface fragment, and a CCS core

fragment. In the shovel test probes, an assortment of prehistoric chipped stone was recovered and an historic metal spike fragment was identified. Further investigation of site 45CL463 later in the year identified an additional 152 lithic artifacts from the excavation of 1.25m³ of sediment (Roulette 1997). Site 45CL463 is located approximately one mile from the WSU 78th Street Agricultural Center and would not be impacted by the proposed project.

Site 45CL587 is recorded as a historic period site associated with a 1940s Minimal Tradition house and associated barn/garage of a similar vintage located at 1513 NE 88th Street, Vancouver, Washington (Baker 2004). A sparse surface scatter of historic period and modern materials was located behind the house and constitutes the historic archaeological component of the site. The site is located south of NE 88th Street approximately ½ mile north of the WSU 78th Street Agricultural Center facility and would not be impacted by the proposed project.

Site 45CL606 is recorded as a lithic scatter just north of NE 68th Street approximately ¼ east of Hazel Dell Clark County Park (Gall 2003). Described as being located on a slight knoll leading down into a wetland complex, site 45CL606 consists of four pieces of chipped stone debitage (3 CCS and 1 basalt) and a cobble chopper. This site would not be impacted by the proposed project.

Historic Context

The main building located at 1919 NE 78th Street on the WSU 78th Street Agricultural Center parcel was originally built in 1926 for the Clark County Poor Farm (Figures 3 and 6). A portion of the parcel which is accessed from NE 68th Street via a narrow easement, from 1873 to 1935, was established as the Clark County Poor Farm Cemetery, also known as the Marble Mount Cemetery, interring approximately 200 individuals over the years (Harshman, Oman, and Snell 2001). The 1860 Surveyor General Land Office Map shows a north-south running road east of the project area. Labeled as Salmon Creek Road, it begins near the Fort Vancouver Military Reservation and runs north toward Salmon Creek. Another unnamed road on the 1860 Surveyor General Land Office Map runs northeast into Section 11 and terminates in the area of the Poor Farm.

The Poor Farm maintained orchards, livestock and residence for the county's poor, homeless, elderly, mildly handicapped men and women until the 1940s. Poor farms were organized for impoverished people to live and work. They often provided room and board for people who were down and out. The people who resided on poor farms often helped to raise their own crops, milk cows, garden foods and other needed items. An 1898 account of the Poor Farm in the *Vancouver Independent* reported that 16 people, nine of them children, were living there at the time. A 1936 article in the *Columbian* indicated that there were 28 residents at the Poor Farm, four of them being women (Harshman, Oman, and Snell 2001).

The following is a list of the known superintendents of the Clark County Poor Farm beginning with John Eddings (1885), Andrew J. Remington (1900), C.L. Fegles (1913), Edward J. Harris (1920), W. L. Vest (1925), Mr. Clapsaddle (1927), and John Gretch (1936). John Eddings, Vancouver's second postmaster, was an early superintendent of the Poor Farm after he completed his assignment with the Fourth Regiment, United States Army that was based at the Vancouver Barracks. Andrew Remington had moved to Clark County by the 1870s and was recorded as the Poor Farm's superintendent on the 1900 census (Harshman, Oman, and Snell 2001).

Harshman, Oman and Snell (2001) compiled the most complete listing to date of the individuals interred at the Poor Farm Cemetery. Their research led them to newspaper obituaries, funeral-home records and state death certificates. The first recorded burial at the cemetery was in 1913 and the last identified burial was in 1937.

The county turned the farm over to Washington State College, now Washington State University, over a period of six years between 1943-1949. Metsker's Map of Clark County (1961) still indicated on their map that the original name of NE 78th Street was Poor Farm Road. A July 1999 Clark County Historic Resource Survey Ranking Sheet scored the WSU 78th Street Agricultural Center main building a "98" out of 100 (no author 1999). This rank constituted the placement of the site on the Clark County Inventory of Cultural Resources. Inclusion on the inventory is regarded as preliminary indication of eligibility for the local Heritage Register and potentially, the National Register of Historic Places.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

No evidence of prehistoric archaeological resources was found during the pedestrian survey or in any of the subsurface shovel test probes. The project area maintains a low probability for maintaining unknown and intact prehistoric archaeological resources primarily due to the extensive disturbance to the parcel's sediment over the last 100 years of agricultural practices.

A moderate to high probability remains for unknown historic archaeological resources associated with the late 19th/early 20th century usage of the parcel as the Poor Farm and cemetery. Previously recorded archaeological sites 45CL463, 45CL587 and 45CL606 (described above) will not be impacted by the proposed development of the WSU 78th Street Agricultural Center parcel.

There are three primary historic structures on the WSU 78th Street Agricultural Center parcel: 1) the main building at 1919 NE 78th Street (Figures 3 and 6); 2) an abandoned residence that has been converted into a storage facility and relocated to the middle of the parcel (Figures 3 and 7); and 3) the historic hog barn that has been converted into a storage facility and relocated to the middle of the parcel as well (Figures 3 and 8). A

machine shop/garage located next to the converted historic residence is of a more recent vintage and is not considered to be a historic property.

The main building at the research center was originally built in 1926 and is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places based on age alone (Figure 6). The stucco structure has undergone minor alterations and a replacement of some of the original building material over time with modern material, which has not destroyed the overall character of the building. This building should be formally evaluated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and/or B as the building and surrounding landscape are examples of early 20th century social welfare.

A 1999 evaluation of the building on a Clark County Historic Resource Survey Ranking Sheet rated the main building at the 78th Street facility as a “98” out of 100. The building was coded as maintaining an excellent or very rare example of style; a good example of material and construction, as well as in artistic quality; identified as the only example of this building type in the city/county/area; and minor alterations to the structure has retained the buildings original design elements, material and character (No author 1999). The building’s high ranking in the Clark County Historic Inventory, indicates eligibility for the Clark County Register.

Impacts anticipated from the proposed undertaking may necessitate the relocation of the main building to an alternative location within the parcel. There are examples of historic structures located in the city of Vancouver that have been moved from their original site but are still listed in both the local and national historic registers. By relocating the structure to another portion of the parcel, the building would be able to maintain some of its integrity of place and context.

The historic residence, located between the machine shop and hog barn, was relocated to its’ current spot sometime in the later half of the 20th century (Figure 7). This structure was originally located near the main building alongside NE 78th Street and provided accommodations for the Poor Farm occupants. The wooden framed building is a small, square one story structure with a medium pitch gable front roof. The roof is covered with asphalt shingle. The northern elevation of the building has symmetrically placed doors and windows. The structure has wood tongue and groove siding and generally is in fair condition. Based on age alone, this structure is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places but due to the fact the building lacks integrity of place and context, it is probably not eligible for listing.

The Hog Barn, also relocated to its current spot sometime in the later half of the 20th century, is a large, simple rectangular plan building (Figure 8). This single story converted storage facility has a medium pitch gable front roof covered with replacement metal sheeting. Fenestration consists of wood plank sliding doors (one at each end) and a wood frame, fixed light window (one at each end) with wood mullions. The structure is wood framed with wood tongue and groove siding and is in fair condition. Based on age alone, this structure is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places but

due to the fact the building lacks integrity of place and context, it is probably not eligible for listing.

The Clark County Poor Farm Cemetery contains the remains of as many as 200 people. A memorial and plaque is found near the high point of the cemetery commemorating the individuals interred here (Figure 9). Exact location and orientation of the burials is not entirely understood. A metal cyclone fence with barbed wire separates the cemetery and the WSU 78th Street Agricultural Center parcel but the exact underground dimensions of the cemetery are currently unknown (Figure 9). Shovel test probes along the east side of the cemetery fence failed to identify any evidence of burials on the WSU 78th Street Agricultural Center parcel.

Even though no evidence of human remains was identified, a professional archaeologist should monitor all construction excavation planned for in and around the cemetery/Agricultural Center boundary. If possible and in lieu of archaeological monitoring, Clark County and WSU 78th Street Agricultural Center should perform ground penetrating radar exploration of the Clark County Poor Farm Cemetery in an effort to determine the exact location/orientation of the burials prior to the commencement of construction excavation. This task could be completed in one day by hiring a qualified ground penetrating radar technician to perform the analysis.

Two historic period isolated finds were documented during this predetermination survey. ISO#1, a fragment of a ceramic mug, was found near STP#17 in an unplanted field. No identifying marks or features were noted on the mug fragment. The mug appears to date from the second half of the 20th century. ISO#2, a portion of a metal farming implement, was found along the cemetery fence near STP#06 (Figure 11). No identifying marks or features were noted. The farm implement, based on condition and rust, appears to date from the second half of the 20th century as well. No further recommendations are made for the two isolated finds. The isolated finds were not collected and remain on the grounds of the research facility.

Although highly unlikely, buried cultural artifacts such as chipped or ground stone, historic refuse, building foundations, or human bone could be discovered during construction excavation. If significant cultural resources are discovered during construction excavation, all construction activity in the immediate area must stop so that a qualified archaeologist can accurately assess the context and integrity of the find. Upon discovery of significant cultural resources (e.g., human skeletal remains) the Clark County Sheriff, and if necessary, the affected Native American Tribe must be immediately contacted. The State of Washington OAHP should also be contacted immediately upon discovery of significant cultural resources. All Native American graves on private or public lands are protected under Washington State law (RCW 27.44). Disturbance of a known Native American grave is considered a Class C felony.

RECOMMENDATION


- ☐ An archaeological survey is necessary
- ☒ An archaeological resource survey is not necessary
- ☒ Monitor construction excavation near the known Poor Farm Cemetery footprint

CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE

I certify that I am a:

- ☐ qualified archaeologist, as defined by RCW 27.53.030(9)
- ☒ professional archaeologist, as defined by RCW 27.53.030(8) and WAC 25-48 020(4)

Signature of Archaeologist:



Date: July 23, 2004/revised September 13, 2004

Name: Jason B. Cooper, M.A.

Firm: Jones & Stokes

Address: 11820 Northup Way, Suite E300, Bellevue, WA 98005

Phone #: (425) 893-6439

Email: jcooper@jsanet.com

REFERENCES

Baker, R. Todd

- 2004 *Site 45CL587*. State of Washington Archaeological Site Inventory Form. On file at the Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Olympia, Washington.

DeLyria, Dave

- 1997 *Site 45CL463*. State of Washington Archaeological Site Inventory Form. On file at Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Olympia, Washington.

Gall, Alexander

- 2003 *Site 45CL606*. State of Washington Archaeological Site Inventory Form. On file at Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Olympia, Washington.

Harshman, Rose Marie, Kitty Oman and Mary Snell

- 2001 *The County Farm Cemetery, Clark County, Washington*. County Farm Cemetery Book, Vancouver, Washington.

Metsker, Charles Frederick

- 1961 *Metsker's atlas of Clark County, Washington*. Seattle, WA.

McGee, Dale A.

- 1972 *Soil Survey of Clark County, Washington*. United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service, in cooperation with the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station.

No Author

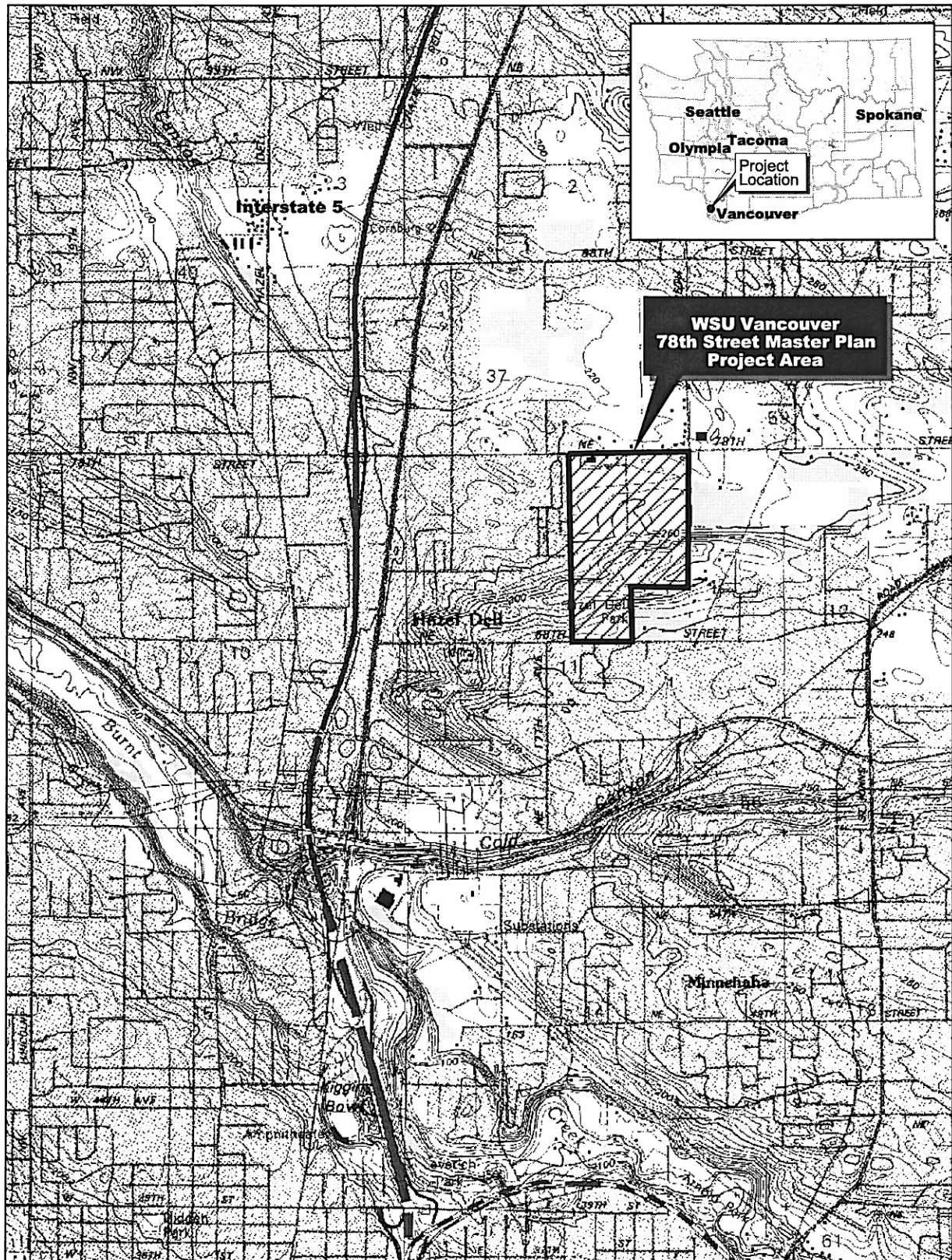
- 1999 *1919 NE 78th Street, Hazel Dell, Clark County Poor Farm*. Clark County Historic Resource Inventory Ranking Sheet, July. On file at Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Olympia, Washington.

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP)

- 1999 *No. 6-98*. State of Washington Historic Property Inventory Form. On file at Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Olympia, Washington.

Roulette, Bill R.

- 1997 *Site 45CL463 update*. State of Washington Archaeological Site Inventory Form. On file at Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Olympia, Washington.



Source:
USGS 1:24,000 Scale DRG - Vancouver Quadrangle

0409.04.001 Cultural Resources Survey (07/06/2004)



Jones & Stokes

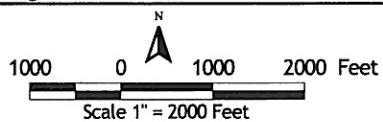


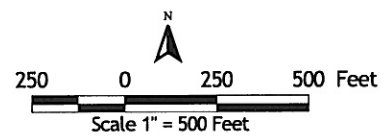
Figure 1
Project Vicinity Map



Source:
Background Image - TerraServer

Legend

 Survey Transects

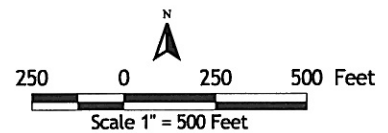




Source:
Background Image - TerraServer

Legend

- Isolated Find - Historic
- Shovel Test Probe Location



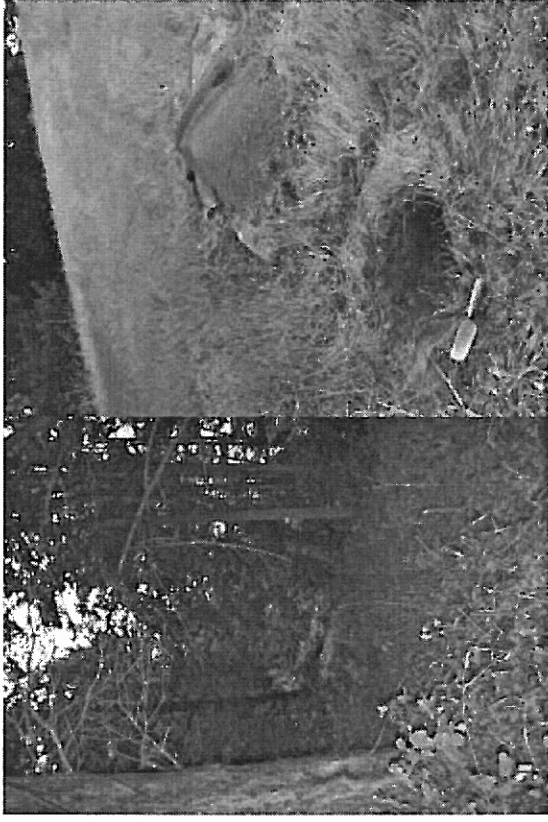


Figure 5. (Left) View of forested area near the cemetery; (Right) General view of shovel test probe and back dirt pile.

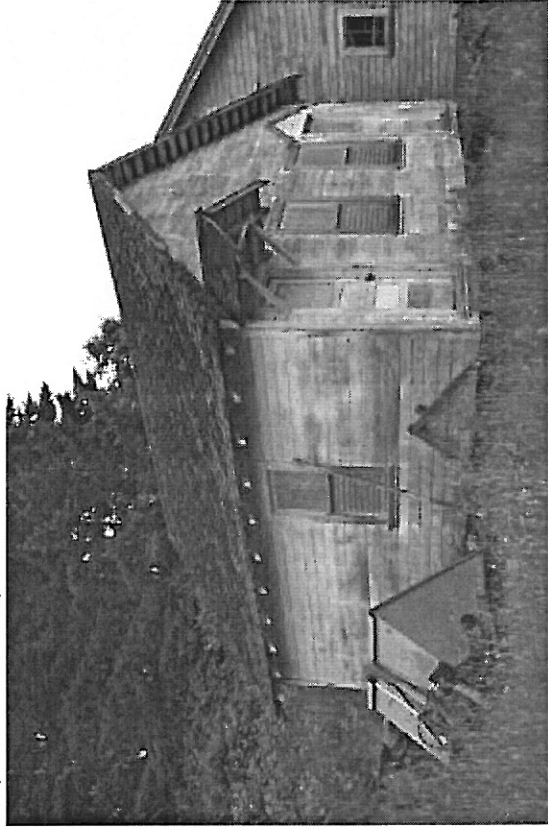


Figure 7. View of the eastern and northern elevations of an abandoned residence that has been converted into a storage facility. This structure was used as a residence when the Clark County Poor Farm was in operation.



Figure 4. View north across the WSU 78th Street Ag Center parcel.



Figure 6. View of southern elevation of the WSU Vancouver Research & Extension Unit main building at 1919 NE 78th Street



Figure 8. View of the eastern and northern elevations of the historic Hog Barn. The structure has been converted into a storage facility.



Figure 10. View of STP#3.



Figure 9. (Left) View of the monument placed on the Clark County Poor Farm Cemetery. (Right) View south of the fence separating the Clark County Poor Farm Cemetery (right side of fence) and the WSU 78th Street Ag Center parcel (left side of fence).



Figure 11. View of ISO#2, a metal farming implement, located near STP#06

Dust, Evan

Subject: ITE Constitutional Amendment Vote - 018105

Due Date: Friday, October 08, 2004

Status: Not Started

Percent Complete: 0%

Total Work: 0 hours

Actual Work: 0 hours

Owner: Dust, Evan

Categories: CLARK COUNTY

Product: Review constitutional amendments and vote by October 15, 2004

History:

09/23/2004 Established task. Set due date 10/8/2004

08/30/2004 Received amendments and voting information from ITE